

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSE OF

JOAN HOFFMAN, R.N.
License # NR 16577500

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee since April 1, 2013.
2. On or about October 10, 2013, a letter of inquiry was sent to respondent's address of record with the Board, asking respondent to supply information concerning allegations that she may have wrongfully held herself out as being licensed as an R.N. in New Jersey at a time when she was not so licensed.
3. The letter was sent to respondent's address of record with the Board by certified and regular mail. The certified mailing was returned unclaimed. The regular mailing was not returned.

4. On or about November 14, 2013, a follow-up letter was sent to respondent on behalf of the Board by certified and regular mail, asking for the same information. The certified mailing was returned, unclaimed. The regular mailing was not returned. No response has been received to date.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's failure to respond to a Board inquiry constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2, -1.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on February 28, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license, and imposing a \$500.00 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record reflect that the certified mailing of the Provisional Order was returned, unclaimed, and the regular mailing was not returned. No response has been received to date. Licensees cannot evade process by failing to respond, and licenses are required to keep the Board informed of any change of address pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.7 and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1-2, -3. The Board therefore determined, as the mailings were sent to

respondent's address of record, that service had been effected. The Board further determined, that as no discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings and conclusions of the Provisional Order, additional proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 5th day of May, 2014,

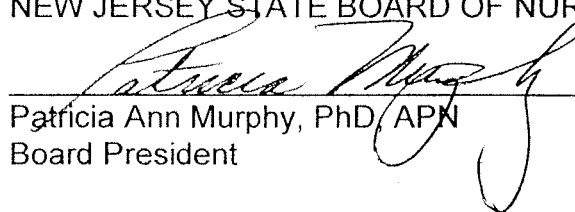
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's New Jersey nursing license is hereby suspended until she has fully responded to the Board's request for information.

2. A \$500.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for respondent's failure to cooperate with a Board investigation. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order, made payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to the attention of George Hebert, Executive Director, Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07101, within 21 days of the filing of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President